

North Creake Parish Council

Minutes of the Parish Council meeting of North Creake held at St Marys Church, North Creake on Thursday 18th September 2025.

Present: Councillors and L Fletcher (Clerk/RFO).

No Members of public attended the meeting

1. The Chairman welcomed all present to the meeting.
2. Apologies for Absence: Apologies were received and accepted from Cllr S Sandell and also from the District Councillor Cllr C Morely and the County Councillor Cllr A Jamieson
3. Declarations of Interest on Agenda Items: Cllrs Bunkle and Culshaw declared a non pecuniary interest in item 14b
4. The Minutes of the meetings held on 12th July 2025 were circulated before the meeting. They were amended to show that the meeting was held on the 10th July 2025 and not the 10th June 2025. Once amended It was agreed that they were a correct record of the proceedings and signed by the Chairman.
5. Parishioners Questions and Statements: There were no members of the public present
6. County and Borough Councillor Reports – None received
7. Clerks report/matters arising
 - a. Picnic bench on the village green – This has now been installed. The clerk advised that he had the brass plaque from the original bench. Council agreed that it should be cleaned and installed on the new bench
 - b. Steps to slide – These have now been removed
 - c. Cllr Culshaw and Cllr Bunkle have now put out the SAM2 speed signs, Cllr Culshaw will collect in the batteries and recharge them ready to move the signs.
 - d. Clerk reported that he now has the postcrete and will instal the dog mess bin by the pond.
 - e. Npower have started issuing invoices again, the clerk reported that he has received 3 credit notes totalling £409.86 and 6 invoices totalling £931.88 so is expecting a direct debit to be taken of £522.02
8. Training – The clerk advised that there is a Basic Tree Survey course available, the council agreed that as they have access to professional advice via Althorp Estate tree surgeon that there was no benefit in attending this course. The clerk also advised that there are several e-learning courses available through NACS which include Intro to Planning, Data Protection Essentials and Health and Safety Essentials. It was agreed that Cllr Bunkle and Cllr Rocklin would do the H&S course and Cllr Rocklin would do the Data Protection course.
9. Open Spaces
 - a. SAM2 signs – See item 7c. Speeding Offences – The police speed camera website shows there were 8 offences recorded in the village in July
 - b. Play area visual inspection – No issues to report
 - c. Bench on Millenium Green – Cllr Rocklin reported that this work will be carried out once the leaves have dropped from the oak tree.
 - d. Flagpole – It was agreed that the should a flagpole be installed in the village that the Church would be more suitable as the Council do not own any suitable land, the village green would require permission of Althorp Estate as the owners and may also

- need planning permission, it would also be complicated by the drains installed under the green which could impede the concrete base that would need to be installed for a flagpole.
- e. Christmas tree – It was agreed to purchase a real tree. Clerk to contact Burnham Market PC Clerk to ask where they purchase their trees from. Council agreed to budget upto £300 for new Christmas lights. Cllr Bunkle to Liase with Christmas lights organiser, Clerk to report back via email regarding tree suppliers and options.
 - f. Litter Bin on Playing Field – Cllr Baker volunteered to empty the bin, Clerk to let her have the ‘key’ to facilitate this. It was agreed to purchase a matching bin to be placed near the MUGA
10. Bio-Diversity
- a. Land at Shammer - Cllr Culshaw reported that a representative from NWT had visited the site and checked records and reported that it was not a suitable site for restoration as records indicate that it has not regularly held water in the past. They did however advise that there were nearby ponds that may well be suitable for restoration, as they are not on land owned by the Council NWT will approach the land owners directly. Cllr Robinson will spray off the re-emerging Hemlock, it was also agreed to remove the top layer of soil to get rid of the Hemlock seed to stop the problem in the future.
 - b. Wildflower Strip at Village Hall – It was agreed for Cllr Culshaw to prepare the area and to purchase seed to sow this autumn.
11. Footway lighting – it was reported that the last light out of the village on Wells road is getting overgrown with Ivy, it was noted that in the past the property owner has dealt with this.
12. Finance
- a. Late payments – None
 - b. Payments approved –
 - Hall Hire for 2024/25 £220
 - Website £258
 - Grass Cutting £1020.58
 - Picnic Bench Installation £549.60
 - Picnic Bench purchase £792.61
 - Steps removal £429.60
 - Wages £265.72
 - c. Finances received in July & August – None
 - d. The August bank reconciliation was agreed and signed
13. Correspondence
- a. Email from Norfolk county Council re Local Government Review (LGR) was circulated prior to meeting and noted
 - b. Email from Norfolk ALC re LGR was circulated prior to meeting and noted
 - c. The Clerk provided an update on the ongoing correspondence regarding the willow trees on Wells Rd
 - d. War Memorial – The Chair advised that he had received a message regarding damage to the War Memorial, the council agreed that this was in fact normal weathering in of the previously repaired section of the War Memorial.
 - e. Email from Norfolk Police regarding Operation Radium – It was agreed that the Clerk should reply to ‘opt in’ to this initiative to combat courier fraud.
 - f. Email from parishioner regarding design of the council website – It was agreed that the Clerk should reply to say that the website met all current guidelines and would not be changed
14. Highways
- a. Buddleia overgrowing on Burnham Road – Clerk to write to resident asking them to cut it back as it is blocking the pavement
 - b. Mirror on Church Street – It was agreed that this should be installed, Cllr Bunkle to liase with Althorp estate

15. Planning

- a. Applications – 23/01996/F Variation of Condition 2, 36 Church Street – Support
- b. Decisions – Retrospective application re Cladding 78 West Street – Approved by KLWNBC

Date of next meeting – 9th October

Meeting closed at 7.35 pm

.....Chairman

.....Dated

THESE MINUTES ARE UNCONFIRMED UNTIL APPROVED BY FULL COUNCIL